

Los Angeles Cal, 1/14.08.

~~John~~ Theodore Roosevelt.

Washington D.

Dear Sir.

I take the liberty of writing you in regard to a matter I deem of grave importance. Months ago my views as to what the Japanese might attempt to do here on the coast, were looked upon as visionary. I was tempted to write you then, but thought it more than likely that my letter would never get by the waste basket in the outer office.

Since then the situation has assumed more definite form, and I am now more than ever convinced that the "Japs" have a surprise up their sleeve and that it be "pulled off" right here on the Pacific coast. Briefly stated, There are now 100,000 able bodied young "japs" here or within easy striking distance. I believe that they are nearly if not all, trained veterans, who more than likely have their kiki suits as well as arms ready for any emergency.

This is a force larger than our whole army. The fortifications on this coast when completed will be strong enough to repel the attack of an enemies fleet, but will not have enough men to man the guns &c, to hold them against an attack by land.

History proves that the "japs" are fond of doing things that the people of other countries would not think of doing, And right



here is the chance for them to make
the greatest military "coup" the World has ever
witnessed, and what is more to the point
when they make a "bluff" they generally make
it stick. They could surprise and capture
our defenses, and if the attack was turned
accurately they could cut off all communications,
let "Old Glory" hang as of yore, and when
our fleet steamed in to the harbor of
San Diego. They could give the "boys"
a round of shot and shell with our
own guns, that would be rather un-
pleasant to say nothing of what it would
mean if our entire water front was in
the hands of the wiley "japs".

They could loot the banks which would
net them a tidy sum, and by ~~blowing~~
blowing up the rail roads and blowing up the
bridges over the Colorado and other streams
and throwing up earth works where needed
they could make it quite difficult
to get troops in here for a while at
least. There's nothing impossible in all
this. Of course they can not hold this
coast and they would not expect to,
but they could hold it long enough to
issue an ultimatum or two, to the
American people, as to what they want.
What that is, you know better than
I. But if it is any of our insular
possessions, there are ^{even} now plenty of people

to say, "let them have it," and if it should
even come to a "show down" of having to
sacrifice thousands of lives and millions
of treasure in order to retain these islands,
how many would oppose the cost? I think
it would become a national issue that
would take precedence over any thing else
before the people. They want something, and
they are going to make a stand for it be-
fore long, and I believe it will be right
here on this coast. One of their trained
soldiers now here is worth a dozen men
unarmed and unorganized. Take for
instance myself, I have a fine rifle
but no ammunition for it, so there are
many others. There are well educated jobs here
in Los Angeles to day washing windows,
or doing other menial work. These men
are something else than scoundrels. They
are here for a purpose, and only doing
this to be on hand and to pay their
expenses, perhaps. All this may seem
utterly ridiculous to you, I hope it is.
But I can not get it out of my head and have
thought so for a long time that there is a
sinister purpose in having this large number
of really fine young men here. I believe they
are picked men entrusted with an extraordin-
ary mission by their Emperor. Having done
my duty whether this letter ever reaches you
or not, I will have the honor to remain
Your obedient servant.

Of course we can lickem.

Henry Detmers.

I am a German American
and I'm proud of it.

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